

Application No. 10/554,230
Amtd. Dated: January 5, 2008
Reply to Office Action Dated: October 5, 2007
Customer No.: 24737

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for automatically searching at least one information source (2, 3) accessible through a data network (6) for contents (4A—4F) that are supplied by this information source (2, 3) and satisfy at least one predefined criterion, which contents comprise useful information (NI) and metadata (ZI) that characterizes the useful information (NI), the information source (2, 3) changing the content supplied by it under the control of control signals (CTRL), comprising:

selecting an information source (2, 3),
receiving at least a part of the content (4A—4F) supplied by the information source (2, 3) selected, which part contains the metadata (ZI),
analyzing the metadata (ZI) in respect of the predefined criteria and, if the criteria are satisfied, processing the useful information (NI) received, and for as long as the at least one predefined criterion is not satisfied, generating a control signal (CTRL) and transmitting it to the information source (2, 3) to change the content (4A—4F) supplied by the information source (2, 3), and again receiving at least a part of the content (4A—4F) supplied by the information source, which part contains the metadata (ZI), and analyzing the metadata (ZI) in respect of the predefined criteria.

2. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the generation of the control signal (CTRL) and its transmission to the information source (2, 3) is carried out for as long as the at least one predefined criterion or an abort criterion is not satisfied, the abort criterion being defined as repeated reception of the same metadata (ZI) from the same information source (2, 3).

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3. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the generation of the control signal (CTRL) and its transmission to the information source (2, 3)-is carried out for as long as the at least one predefined criterion or an abort criterion is not satisfied, the abort criterion being defined as failure to receive metadata (ZI)-from the information source (2, 3)-selected at the time within a predefined period of time.

4. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that another information source (3, 2)-is selected if the abort criterion is met.

5. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that, after the last available information source (3, 2)-has been selected and an abort criterion met, the search method is discontinued or is suspended for a predefined period of time, and is then continued with the selection of an available information source (2, 3).

6. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the processing of the useful information (NI)-includes the recording of this information on a data carrier.

7. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1)-for automatically searching at least one information source (2, 3)-accessible through a data network (6)-for contents (4A-4F)-that are supplied by this information source and satisfy at least one predefined criterion, which contents comprise useful information (NI), and metadata (ZI)-that characterizes the useful information (NI), the information source (2, 3)-changing the content (4A-4F)-supplied by it under the control of a control signal (CTRL), which search arrangement (1) has comprising:

receiving means (5)-that are arranged to select a connection to an information source (2, 3)-and to receive useful information (NI)-and metadata (ZI)-from the information source (2, 3)-selected; and which search arrangement (1) has

analyzing means (7)-that are arranged to analyze the metadata received (ZI)-in respect of the at least one predefined criterion and, if the criterion is not satisfied, to

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generate and emit an activating signal (NE) that represents the non-satisfaction; and
~~which search arrangement (1) has~~

processing means (9) that are arranged to process the useful information (NI) received; and ~~which search arrangement (1) has~~

control-signal generating means (14) that are arranged to generate the control signal (CTRL) and transmit it to the information source (2, 3) to change the contents (4A – 4F) supplied by the information source (2, 3), the control-signal generating means (14) being so arranged that they can be activated by the analyzing means (7) with the help of the activating signal (NE).

8. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1) as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the analyzing means (7) are arranged to take into account an abort criterion, which is defined as repeated reception of the same metadata (ZI) from the same information source (2, 3) and in that, if this abort criterion is met, the analyzing means (7) are arranged to terminate the analysis of the metadata (ZI) received from the selected information source (2, 3).

9. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1) as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the analyzing means (7) are arranged to take into account an abort criterion which is defined as failure to receive metadata (ZI) from the information source (2, 3) selected at the time within a predefined period of time, and in that, if this abort criterion is met, the analyzing means (7) are arranged to terminate their wait for the metadata (ZI) that is not received from the selected information source (2, 3) during the said period.

10. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1) as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the analyzing means (7) are arranged to generate an information-source selecting signal (SS) and emit it to the receiving means (5) if the abort criterion is met, and in that, when the information-source selecting signal (SS) is present, the

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receiving means (5)-are arranged to select an information source (3, 2)-other than the information source (2, 3)-that was selected when the abort criterion was met.

11. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1)-as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the search arrangement (1)-is arranged, after the last available information source (3, 2)-has been selected and the abort criterion met, to discontinue its search of the information sources (2, 3)-accessible through the data network-(6), or to suspend its search for an available information source (2, 3)-for a predefined period of time and then to continue it again.

12. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1)-as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that input means (15)-are provided for the input of criteria for the contents and/or for the input of information-source addresses.

13. (Currently amended) A search arrangement (1)-as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the processing means (9)-are connected to display means (10)-and/or audio reproduction means (11)-and/or means (12)-for recording useful information.

14. (Currently amended) An arrangement for processing useful information having a search arrangement as claimed in claim 7.

15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the information source streams the received content.

16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the information source includes a plurality of contents that are organized in the form of playlists.

17. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein the information source includes an Internet music server.

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18. (New) The system of claim 7, wherein the receiving means receives multiple different streaming content that is concurrently supplied by the information source.

19. (New) A method, including:

receiving both audio data and corresponding metadata indicative of the audio data from an information source, wherein the information source streams the audio data and the metadata;

determining whether the metadata matches user specified criteria;

reproducing the audio data when the metadata matches the user specified criteria;

and

transmitting a control signal to the information source when the metadata does not match the user specified criteria, wherein the information source streams second audio data and second corresponding metadata indicative of the second audio data in response to the control signal, when the second audio data is different than the first audio data.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, further including:

presenting a message when the available information sources have been searched without finding metadata that matches the user specified criteria.